

Minutes  
**Labor-Management Advisory Council on  
Workers' Compensation**

February 16, 2007

1:30-2:30 pm

**Advisory council members present:** Lt. Governor John Bohlinger, Jerry Keck, Bill Dahlgren, Jacquie Helt, Annette Hoffman, Riley Johnson, Don Judge, Dan Lee, Jason Miller, Bob Worthington.

**Core team members present:** Diana Ferriter, Keith Messmer, Chris Catlett, Judy Bovington, Anne Wolfinger, Will Hammerquist

- I. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes  
Bob Worthington moved, Don Judge seconded the minutes for the February 9<sup>th</sup> conference call be approved as amended. Motion passed.
- II. Status of Department Bills
  - o HB 65, HB 72, SB 108 – Expected to be scheduled for hearing after transmittal.
- III. Status of Other Workers' Compensation Bills
  - o HB 508 – Failed on tie vote in committee; may be revoted on at any time
  - o HB 553 – Tabled in committee
  - o SB 214 – Discussion of probable amendment to clarify intent of bill before hearing in the House
  - o SB 426 – Heard this morning in Senate Judiciary Committee; no executive action.
  - o SB 444 – Heard this morning in Senate Business & Labor; executive action taken: passed out of committee
  - o SB 474 – Expected be scheduled for hearing in House Business & Labor on Wednesday, February 21.
- IV. Pending Bill Requests
  - LC 1347 – Not yet introduced
  - LC 2339/SB 511 – Introduced today; not yet scheduled for hearing
  - LC 2344/HB 738 – Expected be scheduled for hearing in House Business & Labor on Wednesday, February 21.
  - LC 2253 – Not yet introduced.
- V. Agenda Items for Advisory Council Meeting in May
  - The next onsite meeting was scheduled for afternoon of May 16, pending coordination with the NCCI State Advisory Forum and length of Advisory Council meeting agenda.
  - o Summary of insurer financial results by Mari Kindberg of the State Auditor's Office
  - o Summary of legislative action
  - o Safety/incident rate modeling

Jason Miller asked if there was a way to determine cost effects of lowering incident rates especially in the higher categories. ERD is exploring this both with NCCI and with

incident rate modeling. Don Judge requested information on incident rates by type of industry and sizes and types of employers. ERD is currently researching the possibility of connecting incident rates with unemployment insurance data containing size of employers.

VI. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

VI. Next Steps

Next conference call: Friday, February 23, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

For the complete discussions, download or listen online to the meeting recording at <http://erd.dli.mt.gov/wcstudyproject/labormngmntadvisorycouncilmeetinginfo.asp>